

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 NEA-06 ISO-00 EB-07 L-02 OES-03 IGA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1716

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, KU

SUBJECT: REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

KUWAIT NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY--PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT

1. WITH DEPARTURE FROM KUWAIT OF ALL BUT ONE MEMBER AID TEAM, WE WISH TO MAKE PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT OF TEAM'S EFFORT HERE. I HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY PLEASED WITH WASHINGTON'S QUICK AND POSITIVE RESPONSE, AND VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED WITH MCVOY AND OTHER MEMBERS AID TEAM. NATIONAL HOUSING AUTHORITY (NHA) DIRECTOR GENERAL DAKHEEL IS ALSO VERY HAPPY WITH RESULTS OF AID EXERCISE. CLEAREST EVIDENCE OF THIS, APART FROM HIS STATEMENTS TO US AS WELL AS TO SER/H DEPUTY DIRECTOR GARDNER, HAS BEEN HIS REQUEST TO HAVE WARNER AND SUNDERLAND RETURN TO KUWAIT EARLY NEXT YEAR TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK.

2. BELIEVE AID TEAM SUCCEEDED IN DETERMINING PROPER ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR NHA AND IN IDENTIFYING KEY ISSUES THE NEW ORGANIZATION WILL HAVE TO FACE. DAKHEEL BELIEVES HIS TWO MOST IMPORTANT PRIORITIES WILL BE TO DO GENERAL ARCHITECTURAL WORK THAT WILL EMPLOY IDEAS AND TECHNIQUES THAT WILL BE NEW IN KUWAIT AND TO DEVELOP A SYSTEMS APPROACH IN PLANNING CONSTRUCTION. HE WANTS SUNDERLAND'S AND WARNER'S HELP IN DEVELOPING THESE IDEAS, WHICH MCVOY AND GARDNER WILL DISCUSS IN MORE DETAIL WHEN THEY RETURN TO WASHINGTON. IN GENERAL TERMS, DAKHEEL WILL NEED TO FIND THE RIGHT PEOPLE TO STAFF HIS ORGANIZATION AND

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HE WILL NEED TO HAVE CERTAIN BASIC STUDIES DONE ON SPECIFIC

IMPORTANT AREAS AFFECTING THE WORK OF THE NHA.

3. AS OF NOW IT APPEARS THAT DAKHEEL WILL WANT TO CONTINUE A RELATIONSHIP WITH AID. IT IS NOT CLEAR, HOWEVER, WHAT THE EXACT DIMENSIONS OF THIS RELATIONSHIP WILL BE. OVERALL COSTS COULD BE A FACTOR. DAKHEEL TOLD US THAT HE WILL LOOK TO AID FOR HELP WITH CERTAIN SHORT-TERM REQUIREMENTS. ON LONGER TERM MATTERS HE WILL FIRST HAVE TO SURVEY WHAT IS AVAILABLE IN KUWAIT ITSELF. WE DOUBT THAT HE WILL BE ABLE TO FIND THE PEOPLE HE NEEDS IN KUWAIT, AND HE MAY HAVE TO GO TO OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES. HE INDICATED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL, SHOULD THE NHA REQUEST ASSISTANCE FROM AID, THAT AID PROVIDE CHOICES FROM WHICH GOK COULD MAKE INDIVIDUAL SELECTIONS THAT IT FINDS MOST SUITABLE.

4. ON THE KUWAIT SIDE, THE MATTER IS LIKELY TO COME TO A HEAD EARLY NEXT YEAR AFTER THE GOK HAS HAD TIME TO REVIEW AID'S FINAL REPORT. MEANWHILE I UNDERSTAND GARDNER AND MCVOY WILL BE REVIEWING WHAT AID CAN DO IN WASHINGTON. WE SHALL LOOK FORWARD TO BEING INFORMED IN THE NEAR FUTURE ABOUT WHAT PROPOSALS AID WILL BE ABLE TO PUT BEFORE THE NHA WITH RESPECT TO LONG TERM RESIDENT ADVISORS HERE AND THE CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE STUDIES AND OTHER BACKUP SERVICES THAT THE NHA MAY REQUEST.  
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